

DISASTER ALERT

FLOOD 1998



JOB TRAINING PARTNERSHIP ACT

Number: FA98-4

Employment Development Department

Date: March 2, 1998

69-1:39:das

TO: SERVICE DELIVERY AREA ADMINISTRATORS
CALIFORNIA CONSERVATION CORPS
LA COOPERATIVA CAMPESENA DE CALIFORNIA
NORTHERN CALIFORNIA INDIAN DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL

SUBJECT: INITIAL ALLOCATIONS AND IMPLEMENTATION INSTRUCTIONS

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The Department of Labor (DOL) has awarded funding up to \$25 million to the State for an emergency dislocated worker project to be supported with funds provided by the Secretary pursuant to Sections 302(a)(2), 322(a)(3), and 323(a)(6), and (b) of the Job Training Partnership Act (JTPA). Initially, \$18 million has been made available for immediate expenditure.

Allocations and Implementation Instructions

The Governor has issued allocations of this initial \$18 million to project operators in flood disaster areas based on submitted needs. A listing of these allocations is attached. For those Service Delivery Area (SDA) project operators in federally declared disaster areas, these allocations will be unilaterally modified into the JTPA Title III master subgrant as a separate line item immediately. The same action will be taken for SDA project operators in the pending areas once the federal disaster declaration is issued. Bilateral subgrants will be executed with the non-SDA project operators on an expedited basis. The term of this project is February 19, 1998, through February 28, 1999. Job Training Automation (JTA) system code 708 has been assigned.

Project implementation should begin immediately. It is expected in most instances that projects will be 50 percent operational within 30 days and fully implemented within two months. Exceptions would include continuing weather or climatic difficulties. Project implementations will be reviewed closely. Funding may be redirected from areas

experiencing implementation difficulties, to areas with immediate need and demonstrated ability to fully utilize funding. This consideration is necessary because of the limited availability of resources. Currently the State has received over \$66 million in requests for disaster funding. It is our intent to seek additional funding to the full level needed. However, our ability to secure additional funding will be affected by our demonstrated ability to efficiently use resources. This demonstrated ability includes timely reporting of all accrued expenditures.

The grant award is for the purpose of serving workers dislocated from their jobs due to the devastation caused by the disastrous flooding that is presently occurring in California as a result of the El Niño storms. The operation of the project must be consistent with the applicable provisions of JTPA; the current JTPA regulations 20 CFR 626, 627, and 631; Training and Employment Information Notice (TEIN) 28-93, dated January 26, 1994; the National Reserve Account (NRA) Application Guidelines under which this grant is awarded and any subsequent modifications to this grant award.

Assistance provided through this grant is limited to those areas the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) has declared eligible for Public Assistance. Activities funded under this grant must be coordinated with the activities performed under the auspices of FEMA in order to ensure non-duplication and maintenance of effort. Our information as of March 2, 1998, 33 counties have received the FEMA public assistance declarations. The State will notify the DOL as additional counties are added. The added counties will then be eligible for assistance under this grant.

Requirements for a Fully Documented Project Plan and Additional Funding

A fully documented project plan is due to the state March 23, 1998. These plans should be based on full funding needs. A plan is required from all funded project operators as well as other eligible project operators waiting to be funded. The data from these plans is needed to secure the remaining \$7 million of the \$25 million currently awarded and to apply for additional funding up to the full level of need. The project plan forms were transmitted

with Disaster Alert Flood Assistance 1998, Number FA98-2 captioned Initial Funding and Planning Update dated February 18, 1998. It is anticipated that DOL will release the remaining \$7 million of the \$25 million by the end of April. The State's application for funding beyond the \$25 million level, due to the potential size of the request, will probably require longer for consideration by DOL.

Eligible Participants

The primary purpose of this grant is to assist workers who have experienced job loss or the inability to work as a result of the disruption to business activities caused by the disaster event. Priority shall be given to workers who have been dislocated and continue to be dislocated as a result of the disaster. Long-term unemployed individuals and other dislocated workers may also be served with these funds provided they meet the eligibility requirements as set forth in Section 301 of the Act and as further defined by the State's policies regarding participant eligibility for Title III assistance.

Eligible Activities

Use of the funding is limited to the creation of temporary jobs. Temporary job creation (TJC) must be concentrated in those areas experiencing the most severe damage to the public facilities and infrastructure. The TJC may also be designed to assist in clean-up, repair, and reconstruction of public and private non-profit property in order to enable the resumption of regular business activities and employment disrupted by the disaster event. The TJC may also provide needed temporary public services (augmenting the capacity of existing public employees wherever needed) and humanitarian assistance caused by the disaster event. The wages, benefits and employment costs for TJC under this grant shall be reported as Retraining.

Other activities under this grant are limited to the Basic Readjustment Services necessary for outreach and intake, eligibility determination, enrollment, etc., and the Supportive Services needed to enable participation.

Eligible Worksites

As previously stated, the purpose of the temporary jobs is to restore the public infrastructure and services so that regular business and employment activities can be resumed. The DOL expects that project operators will prioritize the worksites for the temporary jobs such that the highest priority is for public facilities which have been most severely damaged. The second priority is for private non-profit facilities which have the highest impact on providing needed temporary services and/or restoring public services, etc. In addition:

- The subgrantee must have in place a procedure to ensure that there is non-duplication and maintenance of effort as required by Section 141 (b) and (h) of the JTPA. (in effect, this means that JTPA funds are used last. When this is not possible, the subgrantee must have in place a plan to recover JTPA funds which have been expended for activities or services for which other funds are available.) This includes, but is not limited to: Housing and Urban Development (HUD), FEMA, public or private insurance, donated time and construction workers employed by private for profit firms or where resources are available to provide such employment.
- Compliance with the labor Standards provisions in Section 143 of the JTPA.

In general, Worksites will be limited to public and private non-profit facilities and property. However, as determined by the extenuating circumstances of the disaster for which the Title III funds are being provided, DOL may authorize, on a case-by-case repair and restoration activities on private property. For a private property worksite to be considered, all of the following conditions must be met:

- A. Work may be performed on private land or homes if the non-JTPA employees of the employing unit or if the State or local government workers are authorized to do the same work and are in fact engaged in performing the work using non-JTPA funds.

- B. Work on private land or buildings can be performed to remove health and safety hazards to the larger community.
- C. The only work that can be done is to return the home to a safe and habitable level – not to do home improvement.
- D. Work may only be performed on the homes of economically disadvantaged individuals who are eligible for the federally funded weatherization program.
- E. Priority should be given for service to the elderly and individuals with disabilities:
- F. JTPA funds will not be used for the cost of materials to do the repairs.
- G. Work must be disaster related and not related to general home improvement.

Limitations on Participation and Employing Entity(ies)

Temporary jobs created under this grant shall be in public or private nonprofit agencies. Eligible individual dislocated workers may not be employed in temporary jobs under this grant for more than six months, or 1,040 hours, and may not receive more than \$12,000 in wages. This limitation applies to an individual and not to a specific job.

Administrative Costs

The DOL has advised that the percent of cost limitation for the Administrative Cost Category applies to overall expenditures and is imposed on all Secretary's National Reserve Account projects. Given the substantial needs of the affected workers and communities, Administrative expenditures above 15 percent would not be appropriate. Historically, Administrative costs for temporary job creation grants have ranged between seven and ten percent. When Administrative costs exceed this range, the State must submit a strong justification regarding the cause of the high Administrative cost level for Grant Officer authorization. To this end, the State will not charge Administrative costs to this grant and subgrantee administration will be negotiated.

Reporting

Reporting requirements for this project were addressed in Disaster Alert Flood Assistance 1998, Number FA98-3 captioned Project Reporting dated February 25, 1998.

Summary

Included in this alert is pertinent information to be utilized in the planning and implementation of temporary job creation projects. These alerts will continue to be mailed to all SDAs, thorough April 30, 1998, for informational purposes. Beginning May 1, 1998, mailing will be limited to participating disaster declared project operators. However, alerts will continue to be made available on the Internet for all interested parties. Please refer any questions regarding this matter as follows:

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/S/ JIM CURTIS, Manager
Program Management Section

Attachment

Flood Assistance 1998 Initial Allocations

<u>Project Operator</u>	<u>Allocation</u>
Alameda	\$600,000
Butte	\$600,000
Contra Costa	\$85,000
Fresno	\$600,000
Humboldt	\$600,000
Los Angeles County	\$600,000
Merced	\$1,000,000
Monterey	\$600,000
Mother Lode (Amador, Calaveras)	\$600,000
Napa	\$350,000
NoRTEC (Tehama, Trinity)	\$1,000,000
North Central	\$2,500,000
Richmond (Contra Costa)	\$240,000
Sacramento	\$350,000
San Benito	\$350,000
San Joaquin	\$250,000
San Luis Obispo	\$173,555
Santa Barbara	\$600,000
Santa Cruz	\$350,000
SELACO (LA Co.)	\$350,000
Solano	\$250,000
Sonoma	\$350,000
Stanislaus	\$300,000
Tulare *	\$350,000
Ventura	\$600,000
Yolo	\$246,843
California Conservation Corps	\$600,000
La Cooperativa	\$2,500,000
Northern California Indian Development Council	\$1,000,000
Unallocated	\$4,602
Total	\$18,000,000

* Federal disaster declaration pending.